A' cancel. B5 the controlling step of selectively executing the first and second adjustment steps in accordance with a detection result in the detection step.

A2 cancel. -- 19. (New) The image display control system according to claim 5, wherein the adjustment operation is a contrast adjustment operation.

20. (New) The control method according to claim 13, wherein the adjustment operation is a contrast adjustment operation. --

REMARKS

The claims now pending in the application are Claims 1 to 20, the independent claims being Claims 1, 9, 17 and 18. Claims 1 to 18 have been amended. Claims 19 and 20 are newly presented.

In the Official Action dated September 11, 2002, Claims 1 to 6 and 8 to 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,172,719 (Kim), and Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over the Kim '719 patent and Official Notice. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections respectfully are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The rejections of the claims over the cited art respectfully are traversed. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejections, Claims 1 to 18 have been amended herein more clearly to recite various novel features of the present invention, with particular attention to the Examiner's comments, and Claims 19 and 20 have been added to provide Applicants with an additional scope of protection commensurate with the

disclosure. Support for the proposed amendments may be found in the original application. No new matter has been added.

The present invention relates to a novel image display control system and control method for such a system. In one aspect, as now recited in Claim 1, the present invention relates to an image display control system having a controller for outputting a signal including at least a pair of video and acoustic signals, and an independent image display device for receiving a signal from the controller and displaying a corresponding image (see, e.g., tuner 2 and remotely located SED (flat type TV) 1 illustrated in Fig. 1). The image display control system comprises detection means for detecting an environment of the controller and/or the image display device (see, e.g., page 81, line 24 to page 82, line 4), first adjustment means, arranged in the controller, for adjusting a first characteristic of the image display device (see, e.g., Fig. 2, element 201, and Fig. 45), second adjustment means, arranged in the image display device, for adjusting a second characteristic of the image display device (see, e.g., Fig, 2, element 101, and Fig. 44), and control means for selectively operating one of the first and second adjustment means in accordance with a detection result of the detection means (see, e.g., page 82, line 10 to page 87, line 16).

In other aspects, independent Claims 9, 17 and 18 recites similar features with respect to a control method for such an image display control system, a computer program produce for controlling operation of such a system, and a computer-readable storage medium which stores such a computer program.

Thus, the present invention permits the selective adjustment of display characteristics in a display device in response to changes in environmental conditions affecting independent components of the system, by selectively controlling adjustment

operations of the components. By distributing adjustment operations between the components, optimal adjustments in response to changes in various environmental conditions selectively may be made by the component most appropriate to carrying out the adjustment.

Applicants submit that the prior art fails to anticipate the present invention. Moreover, Applicants submit that there are differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art, such that the subject matter taken as a whole would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

The Kim '719 patent relates to an automatic color temperature control device for a video appliance, and discloses a system including means for adjusting various characteristics of a display device. However, Applicants submit that the Kim '719 patent fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-discussed features of the present invention. Initially, Applicants submit that the Kim '719 patent fails to disclose a system having a controller and an independent display device, including first adjustment means in the controller and second adjustment means in the display device, as disclosed and claimed in the present application. Rather, the Kim '719 patent is understood merely to disclose a system in which all adjustment means are provided in the same device. (See, Kim '719, col. 4, lines 41-54; Fig. 2.).

Applicants note the Examiner's comments taking Official Notice that volume adjustment is well known in the art. However, Applicants submit that such knowledge fails to add anything to the Kim '719 patent that would make obvious the claimed invention.

For the above reasons, Applicants submit that independent Claims 1, 9, 17 and 18 are allowable over the cited art.

Claims 2 to 8, 10 to 16, 19 and 20 depend from Claims 1 and 9, respectively, and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recites additional features in combination with the features of independent Claims 1 and 9, and is believed allowable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims respectfully is requested.

Finally, by separate paper filed concurrently herewith, Applicants have submitted an Information Disclosure Statement identifying additional art that may be deemed important to the Examiner. Applicants believe that the present claims are allowable over the newly cited art. No new matter has been added.

Applicants believe that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submit that the application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP COPY OF CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An image display control system having a controller for outputting a signal including at least a pair of video and acoustic signals, and an independent [at least one] image display device for receiving a signal from the controller and displaying a corresponding image, comprising:

detection means for detecting an environment of [one of] the controller and/or the image display device;

first adjustment means, arranged in the controller, for adjusting a first [display] characteristic of the image display device;

second adjustment means, arranged in the image display device, for adjusting a second [the display] characteristic of the image display device; and

control [third adjustment] means for selectively operating [adjusting the display characteristic by either] one of said first and second adjustment means [in adjusting the display characteristic of the image display] in accordance with a detection result of said detection means[,

wherein said third adjustment means adjusts the display characteristic by either one of said first and second adjustment means in accordance with an adjustment target].

2. (Amended) The image display control system according claim 1, wherein said control means selectively operates one of said first and second adjustment

means to perform an adjustment operation [performs adjustment] when the detection result of said detection means changes not less than a predetermined degree.

3. (Amended) The image display control system according to claim 1, wherein adjustment operations controlled by said control means are [is] distributed [to] between said first and second adjustment means in advance.

4. (Amended) The image display control system according to claim 1, [wherein the system] further [comprises] comprising:

transfer means for transferring the detection result of said detection means between the image display device and the controller, said transfer means being [and] capable of transferring an adjustment result obtained upon an adjustment operation by one of said first and second adjustment means in the image display device and the controller to the other one of the image display device and the controller, and

wherein said controller selectively operates one of said second adjustment means of the image display device and said first adjustment means of the controller to perform [performs] necessary adjustment by said one of said first and second adjustment means [of the one] when the detection result transferred by said transfer means is an environmental change requiring adjustment by [the] said one of said first and second adjustment means.

5. (Amended) The image display control system according to claim 3, wherein said detection means detects a change in brightness, and said first adjustment

means of the controller performs an adjustment operation corresponding to a change in brightness[change, such as contrast adjustment, when a detection result of brightness detected by said detection means changes].

6. (Amended) The image display control system according to claim 3, wherein said detection means detects a change in color temperature, and said second adjustment means of the image display device performs a color temperature adjustment operation [when a detection result of a color temperature detected by said detection means changes].

7. (Amended) The image display control system according to claim 3, wherein said detection means detects a busy telephone signal, and said second adjustment means of the image display device performs a volume adjustment operation to reduce noise in accordance with [whether a telephone set is busy when a] the detection result of [noise detected by] said detection means [changes].

8. (Amended) The image display control system according to claim 3, wherein an adjustment result of said second adjustment means is informed to the controller.

9. (Amended) An [image display system] control method [in] for an image display control system having a controller for outputting a signal including at least a pair of video and acoustic signals, and an independent [at least one] image display device

for receiving a signal from the controller and displaying a corresponding image, the control method comprising:

the detection step of detecting an environment of [one of] the controller and/or the image display device;

the first adjustment step of adjusting a first [display] characteristic of the image display device, the first adjustment step being executed in the controller;

the second adjustment step of adjusting a second [the display] characteristic of the image display device, the second adjustment step being executed in the image display device; and

the controlling [third adjustment] step of selectively executing said [adjusting the display characteristic in either one of the] first and second adjustment steps [in adjusting the display characteristic of the image display] in accordance with a detection result in the detection step[,

wherein the third adjustment step includes adjusting the display characteristic in either one of the first and second adjustment steps in accordance with an adjustment target].

10. (Amended) The control method according claim 9, wherein one of the first and second adjustment steps comprises performing an adjustment operation when the detection result in the detection step changes not less than a predetermined degree.

11. (Amended) The control method according to claim 9, wherein adjustment operations controlled in said control step are [is] distributed [to] between the first and second adjustment steps in advance.

12. (Amended) The control method according to claim 9, [wherein the method] further [comprises] comprising:

the transfer step of transferring the detection result in the detection step between the image display device and the controller, said transfer step being [and] capable of transferring an adjustment result obtained upon an adjustment operation performed by one of the image display device and the controller to the other one of the image display device and the controller, and

wherein said control step selectively executes one of said second adjustment step in the image display device and said first adjustment step in the controller [performs] to perform necessary adjustment by said one [in the] adjustment step [of the one] when the detection result transferred in the transfer step is an environmental change requiring adjustment by [the] said one of said first and second adjustment steps.

13. (Amended) The control method according to claim 11, wherein said detection step detects a change in brightness, and said [the] first adjustment step [of] performed in the controller comprises [performing] an adjustment operation corresponding to a change in brightness [change, such as contrast adjustment when a detection result of brightness detected in the detection step changes].

14. (Amended) The control method according to claim 11, wherein [the] said detection step detects a change in color temperature, and said second adjustment step [of] performed in the image display device comprises [performing] a color temperature adjustment operation [when a detection result of a color temperature detected in the detection step changes].

15. (Amended) The control method according to claim 11, wherein [the] said detection step detects a busy telephone signal, and said second adjustment step [of] performed in the image display device comprises [performing] a volume adjustment operation [in accordance with whether a telephone set is busy or not, when a detection result of noise detected in the detection step changes].

16. (Amended) The control method according to claim 11, wherein an adjustment result in the second adjustment step is informed to the controller.

17. (Amended) A computer program product for controlling operation of [which operates on] an image display control system having a controller for outputting a signal including at least a pair of video and acoustic signals, and an independent [at least one] image display device for receiving a signal from the controller and displaying a corresponding image, comprising code for performing [codes of]:

the detection step of detecting an environment of [one of] the controller and/or the image display device;

the first adjustment step of adjusting a first [display] characteristic of the image display device, the first adjustment step being executed in the controller;

the second adjustment step of adjusting a second [the display] characteristic of the image display device, the second adjustment step being executed in the image display device; and

the controlling [third adjustment] step of selectively executing [adjusting the display characteristic in either one of] the first and second adjustment steps [in adjusting the display characteristic of the image display] in accordance with a detection result in the detection step[,

wherein the third adjustment step includes adjusting the display characteristic in either one of the first and second adjustment steps in accordance with an adjustment target].

18. (Amended) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a computer program for controlling operation of [operating on] an image display control system having a controller for outputting a signal including at least a pair of video and acoustic signals, and an independent [at least one] image display device for receiving a signal from the controller and displaying a corresponding image, the computer program comprising code for executing [codes of]:

the detection step of detecting an environment of [one of] the controller and/or the image display device;

the first adjustment step of adjusting a first [display] characteristic of the image display device, the first adjustment step being executed in the controller;

the second adjustment step of adjusting a second [the display] characteristic of the image display device, the second adjustment step being executed in the image display device; and

the controlling [third adjustment] step of selectively executing [adjusting the display characteristic in either one of] the first and second adjustment steps [in adjusting the display characteristic of the image display] in accordance with a detection result in the detection step[,

wherein the third adjustment step includes adjusting the display characteristic in either one of the first and second adjustment steps in accordance with an adjustment target].